



MEDIA RELEASE

VICTOR PROJECT DATABASE LAUNCHED MAXIMIZING BENEFITS IN NORTHERN ONTARIO

Timmins – December 5, 2005 - De Beers Canada announced today the launch of the Victor Project web based database, designed to facilitate the collection, management and communication of information related to the development of Ontario's first diamond mine.

A direct link to the database is located in the Victor Project mining section at www.debeerscanada.com under Procurement and Contracts. The database is an interactive forum allowing potential business owners and contractors, access to procurement and human resources skills information, ensuring employment and business opportunities are maximized for the people of Northern Ontario.

The Human Resources Inventory (HRI) located in the database, is an application used for the collection, management and distribution of resumes and is specifically targeted to enhance Aboriginal and local employment opportunities. "Local businesses and contractors looking for employees can search for candidates based on a variety of criteria, simplifying the process of ensuring vendors fully utilize local capacity" said Rachel Pineault, Human Resource Manager for the Victor Project.

A Web Procurement component is also available and serves as a clear and simple means of communicating with businesses while providing timely access to information on procurement opportunities. Interested businesses can register online and post packages using a consistent format. Bidders can also submit an expression of interest directly via the website.

"Developing meaningful partnerships with the communities in which we operate is key to the continued success and development of the Victor Project and as the bulk of work will be contracted out during the construction phase, this database will be a vital tool in honoring our commitment to maximize employment and business opportunities for the north" said Jeremy Wyeth, Victor Project Vice President.

De Beers will invest \$980 million developing the Victor Project. It will take three years to construct and is scheduled to begin production at the end of 2008. Victor will produce approximately 6 million carats during the life of the mine and will employ about 600 people during construction and 400 during production. For further information on De Beers Canada you can visit their website at www.debeerscanada.com.

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